Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 EB-04 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-01 IO-06 /047 W

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R 281521Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0548

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO

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USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EEC, COMECON, EEWT

SUBJ: EC REPLY TO CEMA PROPOSAL FOR DIRECT TALKS

REF: BRUSSELS 6666

1. MISSION HAS OBTAINED IN CONFIDENCE A COPY OF THE EC REPLY (APPROVED BY THE JUNE 21 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL - REFTEL) TO THE OLSZEWSKI LETTER PROPOSING CONFIDENTIAL

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DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN EC AND CEMA. ACCORDING TO PERM REP SOURCES, THE LETTER WAS DELIVERED TO THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ON JUNE 24 IN WARSAW.

2. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS BELOW:

QUOTE: YOUR LETTER OF 18 APRIL 1977 ON BEHALF OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN EXAMINED WITH THE GREATEST CARE BY CONFIDENTIAL

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CORRESPONDENCE SO FAR EXCHANGED.

IN ITS COMMUNICATION OF 13 NOVEMBER 1976, THE COMMUNITY STATED THAT IT IS PREPARED TO START NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE DRAFT WHICH IT TRANSMITTED TO YOU ON THAT OCCASION. THIS DRAFT STILL EXPRESSES THE COMMUNITY POSITION. HOWEVER, THE COUNCIL OF THE COMMUNITIES AGREES THAT A PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE TYPE WHICH YOU SUGGEST COULD BE USEFUL. THE COMMUNITY CONSIDERS, INDEED, THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE DURING SUCH A MEETING TO DEFINE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS AND AT THE SAME TIME TO INITIATE THIS NEW PHASE IN OUR DIALOGUE.

I THEREFORE HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU OF OUR AGREEMENT THAT THIS MEETING SHOULD BE ORGANIZED IN BRUSSELS AND I HOPE THAT A DATE DURING SEPTEMBER WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR YOU. THE PRESIDENT IN OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE PLEASED TO WELCOME THE PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AT THIS MEETING. ON THIS OCCASION HE WILL CONFIDENTIAL

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INTRODUCE TO HIM MR. HAFERKAMP, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION, WHO CARRIES THE RESPONSIBILITY, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY, FOR ALL STAGES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. END QUOTE.

3. AT THE SAME TIME THEY APPROVED THE LETTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS ALSO ENDORSED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT FOR THE COUNCIL MINUTES:

QUOTE: STATEMENT TO BE ENTERED IN THE COUNCIL MINUTES

THE OBJECT OF THE MEETING MUST BE - AS PROPOSED IN THE LETTER FROM THE CEMA (FIFTH PARAGRAPH) - AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE TALKS AND ON THE WAY IN WHICH THEY SHOULD TAKE PLACE" WHICH, FOR THE COMMUNITY, MEANS THAT IT WOULD CONSIST OF PRELIMINARY TALKS RESTRICTED TO PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS THE DEFINITION OF ARRANGEMENTS WITH A VIEW TO THE OPENING OF SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS. IF THE CEMA WERE TO TAKE UP OTHER ASPECTS, THE COMMUNITY WOULD BASE ITS RESPONSE ON THE COMMUNITY POSITION AS DEFINED IN THE LETTER OF

NOVEMBER 1976. ON THIS OCCASION THE COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE WILL SET OUT THE COMMUNITY'S POINT OF VIEW, THUS INDICATING THAT THE COMMISSION MUST HENCEFORTH BE THE CMEA'S NORMAL INTERLOCUTOR, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS POWERS. END QUOTE.MORRIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DOCUMENTS, TEXT, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 28-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE06949
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: X1 Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770230-0941 Format: TEL From: BRUSSELS

Handling Restrictions: Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770611/aaaaajvm.tel

Line Count: 122 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 081d9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS Reference: 77 BRUSSELS 6666

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2012617 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EC REPLY TO CEMA PROPOSAL FOR DIRECT TALKS

TAGS: EEWT, EEC, COMECON

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/081d9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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